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# Professor sues chancellor after tenure denied

MATT DARAY  
Daily Egyptian

A political science professor is suing the university on grounds of sex discrimination and retaliation.

Laura Hatcher, a political science professor, filed a lawsuit Friday at the U.S. District Court in Benton claiming the university discriminated against her by denying her tenure, effectively terminating her employment. She is seeking more than \$2 million in compensatory damages, punitive damages and restitution for attorney’s fees.

Shari Rhode, Hatcher’s attorney, said Hatcher filed the lawsuit because she lost tenure to a male professor who lacked the same qualifications and dedication to the department Hatcher has displayed.

Hatcher had more stringent qualifications to meet than her male competitor, she said.

Rhode said Hatcher took the case to the university’s five-member judicial review board, where the case was voted unanimously in her favor. Though the board ruled for Hatcher, Chancellor Rita Cheng declined to carry out its decision, Rhode said.

University spokesman Rod Sievers said the university does not discuss personnel matters or litigation pertaining to the university or its staff. Parts of the tenure process are sometimes disputed, he said, and in this case the dispute will be decided by a judge.

*Matt Daray can be reached at mdaray@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.*

# FAFSA change may aid LGBTQ families, students

JESSICA WETTIG MILES  
Daily Egyptian

Changes in the FAFSA could mean more opportunities for nontraditional families.

The U.S. Department of Education announced April 29 the Federal Application for Financial Student Aid will now allow students with unmarried or same-sex parents to list both parents’ incomes. Gay rights advocates have expressed excitement because this change recognizes households led by a homosexual couple as a family, and several students said the changes are a step in the right direction.

SIU’s Coordinator for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Resource Center, Wendy Weinhold, said this is one more step to equality for homosexuals and transgendered peoples. The more barriers broken, she said, the better.

“This is not just an issue about students (or) children whose parents are in same-sex relationships,” Weinhold said. “This about making the world better for all of us.”

She said the changes can open doors for students whose college education might have previously

been unattainable. Being allowed to claim both parents’ incomes can make a difference in qualifications for financial aid, she said.

Weinhold said she has not heard arguments against the decision at this point. However, she said she thinks the change is related to the arguments for and against the controversial same-sex marriage issue, and the changes are bound to be met with dissent.

Weinhold said her only concern is that social aspects of same-sex marriage will be ignored, even while legal issues are being solved. Gay marriage remains a controversial issue and many people still don’t accept it, she said. Because of this, she said the issue of gender identity is something society has a harder time accepting than gay marriage.

“We should not think we’re done once marriage equality occurs,” Weinhold said.

She said the country is headed in the direction of marriage equality, but there will still be work to do even then. People still don’t understand how unrelated gender identity and sexuality are to the rest of a person’s life, she said.

“It’s astonishing to me that it

**Please see FASFA | 3**

# Truth, justice and the Saluki way



LAURA ROBERTS | DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Joe Wilson, a junior from Millstadt studying history, waves to students Wednesday as he runs through the Faner breezeway. Wilson, also known as “Saluki Superman” according to his Facebook page, started dressing in the costume to make his regular runs more entertaining for both him and the people he passes. “I always get positive reactions,” he said. “A lot of people will stop and ask if they can get pictures taken with me. I really want to be running one day and see someone dressed as a Superman villain. I would give them serious props.”**

# New autism research technology-based

ELIZABETH ZINCHUK  
Daily Egyptian

A university professor’s research could help those with autism communicate in a unique way.

Behavior analysis and therapy professor Ruth Anne Rehfeldt received grant funding for a research project to improve the communication skills of people with autism, a disorder which, according to the Autism Society, affects 1 percent of U.S. children and affects between 10-17 percent

more people each year than it did previously. Rehfeldt’s program uses iPads and PC tablets to bridge the gap between caregivers and children with autism, and she is a part of a international group that will conduct the research project in Wales after the group secured \$116,090 in Autism Speaks funding.

Rehfeldt said people with autism struggle to communicate effectively, a problem her research will alleviate.

“It is one of the defining

characteristics,” Rehfeldt said. “(Those with autism) have a hard time connecting socially and often act overly interested.”

Children with autism have varying levels of ability to communicate, she said.

“(Children with autism) usually have unusual social distance and skills ranging from highly functioning to completely non-verbal,” Rehfeldt said. “Our research will focus on the non-verbal.”

**Please see RESEARCH | 3**



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## Mission Statement

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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## Alleged Auschwitz death camp guard arrested

DAVID RISING  
Associated Press

BERLIN — A 93-year-old man who was deported from the U.S. for lying about his Nazi past was arrested by German authorities Monday on allegations he served as an Auschwitz death camp guard, Stuttgart prosecutors said.

Hans Lipschis was taken into custody after authorities concluded there was “compelling evidence” he was involved in crimes at Auschwitz while there from 1941 to 1945, prosecutor Claudia Krauth said.

Lipschis has acknowledged being assigned to an SS guard unit at Auschwitz but maintains he only served as a cook and was not involved in any war crimes.

Krauth said, however, that a judge upheld her office’s request for an arrest warrant after concluding there was enough evidence to hold him before charges on accessory to murder are brought. Bringing formal charges, a process similar to a U.S. grand jury indictment, would take another two months, she said.

In the meantime, Krauth said a doctor has confirmed Lipschis’ health remains good enough for him to be kept in detention.

Lipschis does not currently have an attorney, and a public defender has not yet been appointed, she said.

Lipschis was deported from the U.S. in 1983 for lying about his Nazi past when he immigrated to Chicago in the 1950s after the war.

With no evidence linking him to specific war crimes, however, it was impossible under previous German law to bring charges against him in Germany.

But the case is now being pursued on the same legal theory used to prosecute former Ohio autoworker John Demjanjuk, who died last year while appealing his 2011 conviction in Germany for accessory to murder on the grounds that he served as a guard at the Sobibor death camp.

Under the new line of thinking, even without proof of participation in a specific crime, a person who served at a death camp can be charged with accessory to murder because the camp’s sole function was to kill people.

Even though the Demjanjuk conviction is not considered legally binding because he died before his appeals were exhausted, the special German prosecutors’ office that deals with Nazi crimes has said that about 50 other people in the same category are being investigated.

Efraim Zuroff, the chief Nazi hunter with the Simon Wiesenthal Center, called the arrest of Lipschis — who is No. 4 on his current list of “most wanted Nazi war criminals” — a good start.

“This is a very positive step, we welcome the arrest,” he said in a telephone interview from Israel. “I hope this will only be the first of many arrests, trials and convictions of death camp guards.”

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## FASFA

CONTINUED FROM 1

“It’s astonishing to me that it is a radical idea still today in our society that your penis or vagina, or combination thereof if you’re intersex, does not determine the clothing you wear, the career you want, the experiences and expressions you have,” Weinhold said. “And neither of those two things either relates to what you want to do with your penis or vagina when you take your clothes off and are intimate with someone.”

While the new inclusions may be positive for gay rights advocates, Director of Financial Aid Terri Harfst said the changes may not be financially beneficial.

When a person applies for financial aid, she said, only being able to claim one parent’s income could mean a smaller household income is listed, which means more financial aid could be awarded. If students include both parents, their eligibility might decrease, she said.

Despite the lack of benefits, Harfst said this sends a message for recognizing families of different kinds in society, instead of just recognizing a heterosexual married couple and their children.

Several students said the FAFSA changes will benefit more than simply LGBTQ families, and bring equal opportunities for many different households.

Andrew Harless, a junior from Springfield studying photography and radio television, said this change brings up many interesting sides to the gay marriage argument, particularly focusing on the financial benefits of these couples’ children. However, he said he wonders whether the FAFSA change just targets the tip of the iceberg, or the entire issue.

“I don’t know if this is a Band-Aid on a gaping wound or something that can legitimately affect some change, but I think either way it’s a step in the right direction,” he said.

Jake Vrabel, a sophomore from Mundelein studying aviation flight, said this will not affect him personally because his parents are married. However, he said this will allow equal opportunity not only for children of same-sex couples, but also for children of parents who chose a domestic partnership instead of marriage.

Vrabel said the church and state are separate, and the arguments of marriage are often religious issues. Differences in sexuality should not prevent a person from getting the same opportunities as everyone else, he said.

“You should be able to do what everyone else is doing and getting the benefits that everyone else is getting,” Vrabel said.

Kristen Whiteford, a graduate student from Carbondale studying behavioral analysis and therapy, said recognizing homosexuals and

that we will make that whole protocol on a PC and iPad Tablet,” Rehfeldt said. “They would be taught to identify the image or text on that format.”

She said the iPads and tablets will allow greater information storage compared to the binder format.

Since tablet technology has become popular, she said, people with autism wouldn’t stand out while carrying their device.

“We think it is kind of cool, because since a lot of people are using this technology, they will look more normalized,” Rehfeldt said. “They look more grown up versus different.”

Robert Whelan, Rehfeldt’s colleague at the University of Vermont who will also participate in the program, said while the project will incorporate helping children to communicate through modern

## Final countdown



ALEXA ROGALS | DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Steven Carroll, a sophomore from Sugar Grove studying electrical science, studies for a final Monday in Morris Library. Carroll said he has final exams every day this week and was focusing on the two back-to-back finals he had Monday morning.**

domestic partnerships as families is a step toward equality in society. Messages sent by governmental decisions can have a huge impact on society’s views, she said.

Anna Cronin, a graduate student from Peoria studying behavior

analysis and therapy, said this change would affect some of her friends, and they would be excited to know their children would have more equal opportunities.

“Such base level changes, such as a FAFSA changing, says that there’s

certainly a movement towards acceptance of gay marriage on a federal level instead of state,” she said.

*Jessica Wettig Miles can be reached at [jwettig@dailyegyptian.com](mailto:jwettig@dailyegyptian.com) or 618-536-3311 ext. 259.*

## RESEARCH

CONTINUED FROM 1

Rehfeldt said intellectual disabilities and autism sometimes do not go hand in hand, an intellectual disability is often present with non-verbal autism-affected children.

“I have done research with autism at an extreme level ... We have developed skills so (children) can point at what they need and say what they prefer through an image or text representation,” she said.

Children with autism will be able to relay an object’s name through speech using the skills, she said.

Right now, caregivers will often have to carry around a large binder of images and texts, Rehfeldt said. Her research would put these resources in a more concise system, she said.

“What makes our research unique is

“**Children with autism will be able to relay an object’s name through speech using the skills.**

— Ruth Anne Rehfeldt  
Behavior analysis and therapy professor

technology, kids will be able to go beyond using just phrases to express themselves.

“(Children) won’t just learn a set number of phrases but will be given the tools to combine a large number of words to make a vast array of sentences,” he said.

The tablets’ touch-screen interface is a way for autistic children to make requests via computer,” he said.

Whelan said early access to this technology could lighten some children’s communication difficulties they may encounter throughout their lives.

“Early intervention is very beneficial for language development, so developing computerized tools could be a useful way of helping more individuals,” he said.

Valerie Boyer, university Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders director, said she is happy researchers are trying to keep up with technological changes.

“As we make technological advances, it is important to use those technological advantages toward individuals with all kinds of disabilities, including autism,” Boyer said. “(Rehfeldt’s) research is dealing

with technology, which is a big deal for people with autism.”

Boyer said autism research is important as the number of those affected by the disorder continues to increase. Rehfeldt’s research will assist children with autism to communicate in a way that has been shown to help those the disorder has affected, she said.

“In terms with individuals with autism and the struggle they face, there are a lot of problems with building social relationships with peers and others,” Boyer said. “They sometimes struggle with some of the abstract aspects in communications, as in not being able to interpret non-verbal elements in conversation.”

*Elizabeth Zinchuk can be reached at [ezinchuk@dailegyptian.com](mailto:ezinchuk@dailegyptian.com) or 536-3311 ext. 268.*

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# Till family calls for meeting with Lil Wayne, PepsiCo

CHRIS TALBOTT  
Associated Press

NASHVILLE — The family of Emmett Till says a letter from Lil Wayne fell short of an apology for his crude reference to the civil rights martyr, and they want a meeting with the rapper and representatives from PepsiCo to discuss their commercial partnership.

A publicist for the Rev. Al Sharpton says he is attempting to arrange a meeting between the parties to work out differences over Wayne's vulgar reference to Till in a song lyric. Wayne has a contract to promote PepsiCo product Mountain Dew.

Lil Wayne's letter, which appears on Young Money Entertainment letterhead and was provided to The Associated Press by the family, offered empathy and outlined corrective measures regarding the offensive lyrics in the song, but stopped short of apologizing.

"I was not impressed," said Airicka Gordon-Taylor, a cousin of Till's.

Gordon-Taylor said it was disappointing because there was no apology, it came more than 75 days after the song hit the Internet and it actually was leaked on the Internet before the family received it. Wayne's representatives tell the family there was an attempt to hand deliver the letter.

"I think that he's kind of been pressured or he's been admonished to make a statement to the family because of the ongoing negative publicity and

attention and the pressure we've put onto his endorsement with Mountain Dew," she said in a phone interview from Chicago. "I feel like it was an acknowledgment. He has finally, publicly acknowledged the ongoing outcry. It was not an apology. ... However, I think it's a start. I think the door is now open for us to have a sit-down, to have a dialogue."

The New Orleans rapper made the brief offensive reference to Till in a guest appearance on Future's song "Karate Chop" earlier this year. In just seven words, he refers to beating someone during a sexual act and uses an obscenity. He says he wants to do as much damage as was done to Till.

The black teen from Chicago was in Mississippi visiting family in 1955 when he was killed — allegedly for whistling at a white woman. He was beaten, had his eyes gouged out and was shot in the head before his assailants tied a cotton gin fan to his body with barbed wire and tossed it into the Tallahatchie River. Two white men, including the woman's husband, were acquitted by an all-white jury.

Till's body was recovered and returned to Chicago where his mother, Mamie Till, insisted on having an open casket at his funeral. The pictures of his battered body helped push civil rights into the cultural conversation.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson reached out to Epic Records on the family's behalf when the song leaked on the Internet in February and its chairman, LA Reid, apologized.

At the time, Gordon-Taylor, founding director of the Mamie Till Mobley Memorial Foundation, asked Wayne to apologize. He has made no comment, though Jackson described him as cooperative.

Sharpton became involved because he is upset with Wayne's comments, his publicist said. Gordon-Taylor wants to discuss immediate corrective action with Wayne and also help ensure that the legacy of Till is properly remembered. She says it's about more than the Till family — making sure that lyricists are held responsible for what they say and the message it sends.

The letter, addressed "Dear Till Family," appeared on the Internet this week.

"It has come to my attention that lyrics from my contribution to a fellow artist's song has deeply offended your family," Wayne writes. "As a father myself, I cannot imagine the pain that your family has had to endure. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge your hurt, as well as the letter you sent me via your attorneys."

Wayne says moving forward he will not reference Till or the family in his music "especially in an inappropriate manner." He tells the family he supports Epic's decision to take down the unauthorized version of the song and to not include the reference in the official version. He also says he has removed the song from his catalog and will not perform it live.



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# Students strive for skate park



NICOLE HESTER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

James Accurso, left, a junior from Mount Prospect studying music, Nick Apple, center, an artist from Northbrook, and Clark Nelson, right, a junior from Hinsdale studying computer science, skate Monday at the O'Fallon Skatepark. Accurso said they normally drive long distances to find places to skate because Carbondale does not have its own skatepark. The three are members of Southern Illinois University Skateboarding Society, a group that attempts to gain support to build a Carbondale skatepark. Thrasher Skateboard Magazine's Skate Rock Tour visited Carbondale for a show during the weekend. Apple said Thrasher's appearance was motivation to get people active in skatepark construction. "It was sort of a wake-up call to try to get something here in town so people don't have to drive out to neighboring cities," he said.

## COLLINS

CONTINUED FROM 8

"Ask yourself, 'Where do men get to touch men publicly?' When they are doing sports," Weinhold said. "These things that are supposed to be hyper-masculine are actually things that we recognize outside of athletics as homosocial behavior."

She said Collins' coming out gives people the opportunity to reflect on the gay community and how it can cause fear with others.

"It's not like he's the first gay man to play sports," Weinhold said. "They're just encouraged to be silent about their sexual identities ... That's because we live in a

system that punishes people who are not straight."

Shane Bennett, the assistant director of intramural sports and sports clubs at the SIU Recreation Center, said he and his staff are looking to change that fear by working with the LGBTQ community on campus to make their facility more open and safe for everyone.

"When you walk into the restrooms currently in our facility members of the LGBT community may not feel safe," Bennett said. "We feel that we are breaking barriers in regards of making them feel more comfortable and finding the center far more accepting of them."

Bennett said in speaking with other facilities on what they have done to

help the LGBTQ community, many issues arose including the presence of testosterone in the locker rooms, which is banned by athletics for performance-enhancing reasons, but is often needed for the transgender process.

He said issues like this have come up but said it all boils down to the communication between all necessary parties.

"The more I communicate and the more I talk with people like Wendy, the better it is for our program and the better it is for our community," Bennett said. "For me, I want to make sure I am making a safe environment for the participant and I have no problems working with any student to help achieve that."

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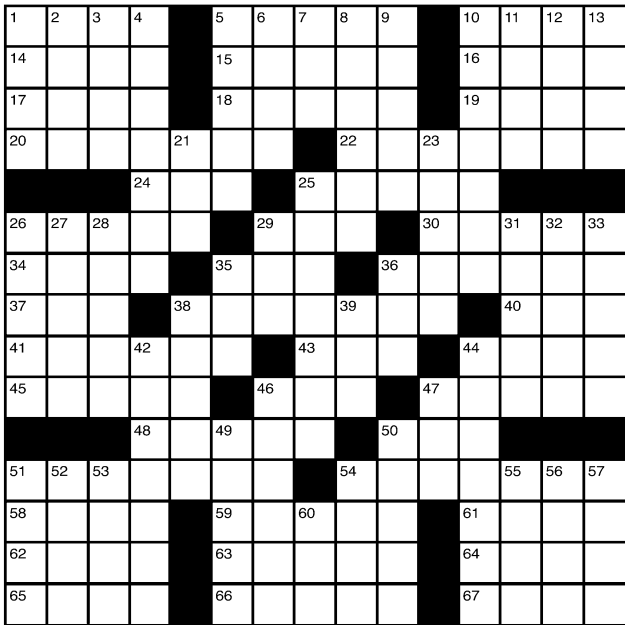
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THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sassy  
5 Caramel candy brand  
10 Sign of a wound healing  
14 Learn by \_\_\_\_; memorize  
15 Foyt or Gordon  
16 Heavy book  
17 Actress Moran  
18 "Rigoletto" or "Carmen"  
19 "Beware the \_\_\_\_ of March"  
20 Downward slope  
22 Lively; spirited  
24 TV's "\_\_\_\_ Got a Secret"  
25 Stringed instrument  
26 Cuddly looking marsupial  
29 Craze  
30 Enjoys a book  
34 Goes astray  
35 In a \_\_\_\_; soon  
36 \_\_\_\_ chloride; salt  
37 In the past  
38 Pope's home  
40 Robert E. \_\_\_\_  
41 Sampled  
43 Ewe's mate  
44 Reveal a secret  
45 Look of contempt  
46 White lie  
47 In the \_\_\_\_ of; surrounded by  
48 Meat stock jelly  
50 Tavern  
51 Go forward  
54 Purplish red  
58 On drugs  
59 Deadly snake  
61 \_\_\_\_ up; bound  
62 Lolling around  
63 Shoe sole ridge  
64 Besides  
65 Malicious look  
66 Pays attention  
67 New Jersey hoopsters
- DOWN**
- 1 Mr. Flintstone



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

05/07/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

- 2 Knowledge of tradition  
3 "It is what \_\_\_\_"  
4 Writing instruments  
5 Norway's dollar  
6 Engrossed  
7 Top club  
8 Passionate  
9 Characteristic  
10 Woke up  
11 Ending musical passage  
12 Prayer ending  
13 At \_\_\_\_; ideally  
21 Zsa Zsa's sister  
23 British peer  
25 Mockingly derisive  
26 Ode writer John \_\_\_\_  
27 Heart or liver  
28 Ascended  
29 \_\_\_\_ as a fiddle  
31 Felt miserable  
32 Sword fights  
33 Small bony fish  
35 Corrupt  
36 Mr. Houston



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05/07/13

- 38 Song stanza  
39 Taxi  
42 Educator  
44 Many a Dalai Lama devotee  
46 Violin  
47 Coffee cup  
49 Juicy fruit  
50 Sections  
51 Golfer \_\_\_\_ Mickelson  
52 Carousel, e.g.  
53 Make eyes at  
54 Honey wine  
55 Longest river  
56 Examination  
57 Commotions  
60 Poor grade

Pick up the **Daily Egyptian** each day to test your crossword skills

# SUDOKU

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Level: **1** 2 3 4

Monday's Answers:

8	9	6	1	5	3	2	7	4
1	3	5	7	2	4	6	8	9
2	4	7	9	6	8	3	1	5
5	6	4	3	1	9	7	2	8
9	8	3	2	7	5	4	6	1
7	1	2	8	4	6	9	5	3
6	5	1	4	9	2	8	3	7
3	7	9	6	8	1	5	4	2
4	2	8	5	3	7	1	9	6

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contain every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

8			3				2	7
	1		7		2		4	
5		4		8		2		
	8	1				6	7	
		9				5		4
	3		2		7		6	
9					5			2

# JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_"

Monday's Answers:

ICING IGLOO BEWARE SWITCH  
He practiced the trumpet for weeks before his band tryout, but on the big day he — BLEW IT

# HOROSCOPES

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clement

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**Aries — Today is a 9 —** Kick back, play and think big. Ask probing questions, and don't worry about results. Love gives you the advantage. Convince through logic. Broaden your perspective.

**Taurus — Today is an 8 —** You have extra resources for a household project, if you need them. Follow a hunch. Heed advice from family. Convince your partner by addressing their concerns.

**Gemini — Today is an 8 —** You and an expert can solve a tough problem. Follow a friend's recommendation. Love and truth get you past any tough spots with grace. People are saying nice things about you.

**Cancer — Today is a 9 —** An important person comes through for you again. Accept more responsibility with a challenge, gracefully. Stick with what you know works, for a while.

**Leo — Today is a 9 —** Welcome a visitor from far away. Consider a new possibility, and make a wise move on to the next adventure. Follow a great suggestion. Public funds may be available. Green light: go.

**Virgo — Today is a 9 —** A dream figure shows you how to make a change. Meanwhile, accept a gift for your home. Bring out valuables you've kept hidden. Money for a household investment becomes available.

**Libra — Today is a 9 —** Try out a new idea and get creative. Friends offer good advice. Tell the truth, and ask probing questions. Learn new skills from a master. Dazzle them with your brilliance.

**Scorpio — Today is an 8 —** Ask for what you want, and accept a generous offer. Keep track of your promises. Work can be fun, too, you know. Don't forget to invoice. Work faster and make more money.

**Sagittarius — Today is an 8 —** Accept an honor and a great suggestion from a child. Your imagination is greatly admired. Control your personal spending. You have the innate power to do this.

**Capricorn — Today is an 8 —** Keep track of your winnings. Get it in writing. Arrange financing or play with investments. You may have more than you realize. Continue a renovation project.

**Aquarius — Today is an 8 —** Collaboration is a good idea. This could even be enjoyable. Turn down a risk. Persuade with the evidence, and let friends know what you've discovered.

**Pisces — Today is a 9 —** Consider another profitable idea. Accept a new assignment on your conditions. Confirm plans in writing. Believe you can succeed. The checks get written.



# Salukis anticipate NFL, CFL pressures

MATT FERGUSON  
Daily Egyptian

With his news sending his mother screaming for joy, former Saluki linebacker Jayson DiManche announced his signing with the Cincinnati Bengals.

DiManche joined two other former Salukis to sign contracts with professional teams last week.

Former defensive end Ken Boatright signed with the Seattle Seahawks and fellow end Eze Obiora chose the Canadian Football League's Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

DiManche said it was great to see his teammates take their first step toward the National Football League.

"It's just a testament to the type of defense we had this past season," he said. "We had a really active defense with a lot of good players on it, and to have (three) guys from our level get an opportunity is just a beautiful thing."

DiManche joins a line-backing core that is projected to start former undrafted players Vontaze Burfict, Arizona State standout, and James Harrison, a Kent State veteran. DiManche said seeing them succeed gives him hope for his own NFL future.

"The coaching staff has been there for a couple of years, and they do a really good job of finding talent where most people won't even really look at it," DiManche said. "A guy like Vontaze (Burfict) and James Harrison and a couple other guys who went undrafted really shows that they can give me a good opportunity to show what I can do."

All three former Salukis will have to fight for roster spots, especially Boatright.

The Seahawks' defensive line is nearly filled to capacity after adding former Detroit Lions and Tampa Bay Buccaneers ends Cliff Avril and Michael Bennett in the offseason with Chris Clemons, Bruce Irvin and Red Bryant already on the roster, where they will fight for playing time. The five of them received significant playing time and combined for 37.5 sacks last season with their respective teams.

Boatright said competition is a part of him and he wants to prove himself any chance he has in any position.

"I'm pretty sure I am not going to make a living off of special teams, so



SARAH GARDNER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Kenneth Boatright, left, and Jayson DiManche laugh on the sidelines during the Salukis' game against Western Illinois University Nov. 17 at Saluki Stadium. The SIU Athletic Department announced Apr. 29 that Boatright and DiManche signed undrafted free-agent contracts with NFL teams. Boatright signed with the Seattle Seahawks, and DiManche signed with the Cincinnati Bengals.**

I am going to do whatever it takes to make it," he said. "I'll be trying to get some time at their (defensive end) position and maybe a little bit of time at the (linebacker position), so I may be playing a little bit of everywhere."

Obiora cited tough competition and lack of football experience as reasons some teams shied away from him. He began playing football almost five years ago after he played rugby in the United Kingdom.

Obiora has since been a Purdue walk-on, a star pass-rusher for the College of DuPage and is coming off of a Saluki season where he recorded 10 sacks, 50 tackles and two forced fumbles.

Still considered raw by the NFL,

Obiora said the Tiger-Cats offered him a rare opportunity to find significant playing time early in his career.

"It is predicated on the speed rush off the edge and being able to run around the entire field, and that's what made them interested in me," he said. "This is my first real chance, and I feel my drive and my hunger and my experiences in three different defensive systems is really going to help make a difference immediately."

Obiora said he hopes his time with the CFL will eventually lead him to the NFL, but for now he wants to focus on the task at hand. The Miami Dolphins' Cameron Wake, former Chicago Bears defensive end Israel Idonije and former

Houston Oilers quarterback Warren Moon also made the transition from the NFL to the CFL.

DiManche, Boatright and Obiora all thanked their teammates and coaching staff for helping them reach their successes, but they specifically thanked strength and conditioning coach Clete McLeod for preparing them for offseason workouts.

McLeod said he worked with the former Salukis with professional hopes in the offseason, exercising their strength and conditioning almost everyday. He said it is a different process than working out in the regular season. In this case, he said, the players need to train to beat

the NFL's tests for potential players.

He said the three were challenged during both the regular and offseason, and he is happy to see them where they are. He said he also acknowledges this is just the first step.

"They are very dedicated to what they do," McLeod said. "They worked their tails off, on and off the field. They are special people and they deserve everything they get, but they know this is a cutthroat game. They'll have to keep doing the same things that got them to this point in their careers."

*Matt Ferguson can be reached at mferguson@dailyegyptian.com or at 533-3611 ext. 282.*

# NBA athlete's coming out renders mixed reactions

MATT FERGUSON  
Daily Egyptian

While professional athletes took to Twitter after NBA player Jason Collins came out as gay, SIU athletes and staff expressed their own opinion on the matter.

"I'm a 34-year-old NBA center. I'm black. And I'm gay," Collins said in an April 29 Sports Illustrated article.

These were the words that made him the first major male pro-athlete in the U.S. to come out as gay before retirement.

His Twitter page revealed that his announcement was received with both congratulations and negative feedback

from fellow athletes. Lakers guard Kobe Bryant tweeted he was proud of Collins, and he should not have to suffocate who he is because of others' ignorance. However, Miami Dolphins receiver Mike Wallace tweeted his own opinion.

"All these beautiful women in the world and guys want to mess with other guys," Wallace tweeted.

Wallace later offered an apology to those he may have offended with his tweet.

When asked about Collins' coming out, former Saluki guard Kendall Brown-Surles said the news surprised him, but he accepted it.

"With how society is now it didn't really bother me," he said. "That is a big

“It’s not like he’s the first gay man to play sports. They’re just encouraged to be silent about their sexual identities ... That’s because we live in a system that punishes people who are not straight.”

step toward another chapter in his life, and for him to come out and nationally speak out like that is pretty brave of him."

Brown-Surles spent four years with the Salukis and finished his final game in early March. When thinking back to his time with the Saluki basketball team, Brown-Surles said he could see issues coming up with Collins' teammates, but they should rise to

defend their teammate.

"I think it could affect (gay athletes') relationships with their teammates just because of how people could view the teammates being friends with (gay athletes)," Brown-Surles said. "But I feel that if they are real teammates then why does it matter what their sex life is about. He is putting in the same work as you are day-in and day-out so you

— Wendy Weinhold  
LGBTQ Resource Center Coordinator

have to be there for him."

When referring to the relationship between teammates, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Resource Center Coordinator Wendy Weinhold said she finds the locker room behavior between athletes to be somewhat contradictory.

Please see COLLINS | 5